

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
U.S. Application No.: 10/089,676

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the subject application are respectfully requested. By this Amendment, Applicant has canceled claims 2 and 4. Thus, claims 1 and 3 are now pending in the application.

Claims 1-3 are now rejected on new grounds. In particular, claims 1-3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Ajima et al. (U.S. Patent 5,390,199). By this Amendment, Applicant has amended independent claim 1 to incorporate the features of allowable claim 4. Accordingly, claims 1 and 3 are now believe to be in condition for allowance.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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